Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/887,394	09/887,394 GONG, YIFAN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Donald L. Storm	2654	
The MAILING DATE of this communication app All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT F of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.31	pears on the cover sheet was (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in the commodification is and MPEP 1308.	ith the correspondence addr n this application. If not includ unication will be mailed in due	led course. <b>THIS</b>
1. This communication is responsive to <u>AMENDMENT filed</u>	<u>May 12, 2005</u> .		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 5.			$\sim$
3.  The drawings filed on 22 June 2001 are accepted by the	Examiner.		
<ul> <li>4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority of a) All b) Some* c) None of the: <ol> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Certified copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have</li> </ol> </li> <li>* Certified copies not received: <ol> <li>Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONI</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	re been received. re been received in Application ocuments have been receive of this communication to file	on No d in this national stage applica	
<ul> <li>THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.</li> <li>A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subr INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives</li> </ul>	nitted. Note the attached EX ves reason(s) why the oath o	AMINER'S AMENDMENT or Nor declaration is deficient.	IOTICE OF
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") mu  (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsper  1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date  (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner  Paper No./Mail Date  Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in	ist be submitted. rson's Patent Drawing Review - r's Amendment / Comment o	w ( PTO-948) attached r in the Office action of he drawings in the front (not the	e back) of
<ol> <li>DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT</li> </ol>			Note the
Attachment(s)  1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/Paper No./Mail Date  4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6. ☐ Interview S Paper No. 08), 7. ☑ Examiner's	nformal Patent Application (PTG ummary (PTO-413), /Mail Date Amendment/Comment Statement of Reasons for Allo	ŕ
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## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Robert L. Troike, Attorney of Record, on July 19, 2005.

#### IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 1, line consisting of set of transformations adaptation speech data from a new environment,", change "new environment" to --new acoustic environment--.

In claim 5, line beginning in accordance with, change "new alignment" to --realignment---

# Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1 and 5 are allowed. The claims have been renumbered for printing to be claims 1 and 2.

# Response to Arguments

- 3. The prior Office action, mailed February 10, 2005, objects to the specification and claims, and rejects claims under 35 USC § 112, § 102, and § 103, citing Gong and Godfrey alone and with others. The Applicant's arguments and changes in AMENDMENT, filed May 12, 2005, have been fully considered with the following results.
- 4. The substitute specification (received May 12, 2005) is present and is now the specification of record.

- 5. With respect to objection to the specification, the changes entered by substitute specification define terminology appropriately. Accordingly, the objection is removed.
- 6. With respect to objection to those claims needing interpretation or clarification, the changes entered by amendment provide clear descriptions of the claimed subject matter of the remaining claims. Accordingly, the objection is removed.
- 7. With respect to rejections of claims under 35 USC § 112, the rejections no longer apply because the claims have been canceled.
- 8. With respect to rejection of claims under 35 USC § 102 and § 103, citing Gong and Godfrey alone and in combination, the changes entered by amendment include merging a local set of linear transforms generated by EM estimation with a set of prior global transforms and adapting models using the transforms that resulted from the merge.

The reference Gong and Godfrey does not explicitly describe that limitation. The whole structure and interaction expressed by the combination of all limitations is not made obvious compared to the prior art of record for the whole invention of the claims, particularly with iterative EM estimation. Accordingly, the rejections are removed. The Applicant's assertions with respect to the references have been considered, but they are moot in view of the new claim elements.

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## Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donald L. Storm, of Art Unit 2654, whose telephone number is (571) 272-7614. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM Eastern Time. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Inquiries regarding the status of submissions relating to an application or questions on the Private PAIR system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028 between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight Monday through Friday EST, or by e-mail at: ebc@uspto.gov. For general information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov.

Donald L. Storm July 20, 2005

HICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER